

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 25, A component mounting apparatus having two board transfer devices each for transferring boards; component supply means for supplying plural kinds of components to be mounted on the boards; and a component placing device including component placing head means for picking up the components supplied from the component supply means to mount the picked up components on the boards and head moving means for moving the component placing head means at least two directions parallel to a surface of the board, wherein the at least one component placing device mounts the components simultaneously or alternately on two boards which have been transferred by the two board transfer devices to respective component mounting positions.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, ~~wherein the two board transfer devices comprises two conveyors of linear transfer type arranged in parallel relation with each other and~~ wherein the at least one component supply means device includes two component supply devices each arranged at the outside of the board transfer device associated thereto.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, wherein each of the board transfer devices is adjustable to alter the transfer way width thereof in a direction perpendicular to the transfer direction.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, wherein the at least one component placing head means device comprises a single component placing head.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 4, wherein a controller is

provided for controlling the single component placing head to mount the components picked up from the at least one component supply ~~means~~ device, on two boards alternately.

6. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim 4, wherein a controller is provided for controlling the at least one component placing ~~head~~ device to mount the components picked up from the component supply ~~means~~ device, on two boards alternately at different frequencies.

7. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim 4, wherein a controller is provided for controlling the at least one component placing ~~head~~ device to perform the component mountings intensively onto one of the two boards while the other board is being transferred after the completion of the component mountings thereon, or while the board transfer device for transferring the one board is being adjusted to alter the transfer way width thereof.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 25, wherein the at least one component placing ~~head~~ ~~means~~ device comprises two component placing heads, ~~and wherein the head moving means comprises~~ further comprising two head moving mechanisms for respectively for moving the two component placing heads independently of each other.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim 8, wherein a controller is provided for controlling one of the component placing heads to perform the component mountings mainly ~~on~~ at one of the two boards board transfer devices and for controlling the other placing head to perform the component mountings mainly ~~on~~ at the other board transfer device.

10. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The ~~apparatus~~ system of Claim 8, wherein a

controller is provided for controlling the component mounting apparatus in such a way that while one of the two boards is being transferred after the completion of the component mountings thereon, or while the board transfer device for transferring the one board is being adjusted to alter the transfer way width thereof, one of the at least one component placing heads device for performing the component mountings mainly on the one board performs the component mountings on the other board to help ~~the other~~ another component placing head device in performing the component mountings on the other board.

11. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 8, wherein the positions to which the two board transfer devices respectively transfer the two boards for component mountings thereon are different from each other.

12. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 8, wherein a controller is provided for controlling the component mounting apparatus in such a way that while one of the at least one component placing heads device is performing the component mountings on one of the two boards within a predetermined interference risk zone which is around a center portion between the two boards, ~~the other~~ another component placing head device performs the component mountings on the other board within an interference-free zone which is outside the interference risk zone.

13. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 8, wherein a controller is provided for controlling the component mounting apparatus in such a way that while one of the two boards is being transferred after the completion of the component mountings thereon, or while the board transfer device for transferring the one board is being adjusted to alter the transfer way width thereof, the at least one component placing heads

device and another component placing device are selectively advanced into a predetermined interference risk zone which is around a center portion between the two boards, to perform the component mountings on the other board.

14. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 8, wherein setting means is provided for setting one of the two board transfer devices as regular type product transfer device for transferring boards used for regular type products and the other board transfer device as brake-in product transfer device for transferring boards used for brake-in products which are different in width from the regular type products.

15. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 14, wherein the regular type products are changeable from the first-type regular products on which component mountings are being performed at the one board transfer device, to second-type products, the apparatus further comprising:

trial production means operable prior to such changing for effecting component mountings on the boards for the second-type products at the other board transfer device on a trial basis; and

setting change means for changing the setting means so that at the time of such changing, the other board transfer device is set as the regular type product transfer device for transferring boards used for regular type products, while the one board transfer device is set as brake-in product transfer device for transferring boards used for brake-in products which are different in width from the regular type products.

16. (Withdrawn - Currently Amended) The apparatus system of Claim 1, wherein the products on which the component mountings are performed at the two board transfer devices

are changeable from first-type products to second-type products, the apparatus further comprising:

trial mounting means operable when component mountings are performed on the boards for the first-type products at one of the two board transfer devices, for effecting component mountings on the boards for the second-type products at the other board transfer device on a trial basis; and

another trial mounting means for effecting component mountings on the boards for the second-type products at the one board transfer device after component mountings on a full-scale basis are started on the boards for the second-type products at the other transfer device.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

23. (Canceled)

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A component mounting system ~~using~~ comprising a component mounting apparatus which ~~have~~ has two board transfer devices provided in parallel relation for respectively transferring boards in a predetermined transfer direction; [[a]] at least one component supply device for supplying components of plural kinds to be

mounted on the boards; and [[a]] at least one component placing device for picking up the components supplied from the at least one component supply device to mount the picked-up components on the boards; and further comprising a shifting device provided at an entrance side of the component mounting apparatus for loading the boards selectively into the two board transfer devices; the system being operable in a first production mode wherein the at least one component placing device mounts components on two boards which have been transferred by the two board transfer devices to respective component mounting positions or in a second production mode wherein one of the two board transfer devices is used as mounting conveyor where the at least one component placing device mounts components on the boards, while the other board transfer device is used as a bypass conveyor by which the boards unnecessary to have components mounted thereon are transferred to bypass the mounting operations at the one board transfer device.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (New) The component mounting system of Claim 25, wherein boards of various kinds are transferred by the board transfer devices in a random order, and wherein in the first production mode, the shifting device loads the boards selectively into the board transfer devices in dependence on the kinds thereof to effect mounting operations on the boards, while in the second production mode, the shifting device loads boards on which components are to be mounted in the component mounting apparatus, into one of the transfer devices to effect mounting operations on the boards and loads boards on which any component is not to be mounted in the component mounting apparatus, into the other transfer device to make the

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board bypass the component mounting apparatus.

29. (New) The component mounting system of Claim 25, further comprising an additional shifting device provided at an exit side of the component mounting apparatus for unloading the boards from the component mounting apparatus and a board discharge device connected to the additional shifting device for discharging any board on which component mountings have been completed, from the component mounting system.